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CUSTOMER NO. 30223

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Hiroyuki Higuchi

Attorney Docket: 52643-00350USPT

Serial No.: Not Assigned

Group Art: Not Assigned

Filed: January 4, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

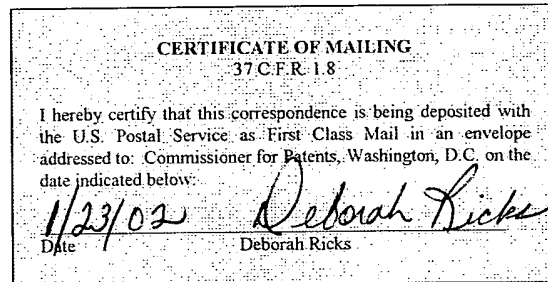
Title: STEAM PRESSURE REDUCING  
AND CONDITIONING VALVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

02/19/2002 SDIRETA1 00000023 10039345

01 FC:102

84.00 DP



Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Attn: Box Fee Amendment

Dear Commissioner:

Please enter the following amendments before examination of the above-referenced patent application:

In the Claims

Please add new claims 4-17 as follows:

--4. (New) A conditioning valve for desuperheating and depressurizing superheated steam, the valve comprising:  
a pressure reducing section for reducing the pressure of the steam; and  
a moisture jet section downstream of the pressure reducing section, wherein the moisture jet section comprises:

one or more flat nozzles for injecting one or more respective planar patterns of water into a flow of the steam exiting the pressure reducing section.